

# OXFORD DEMOCRAT.

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## OXFORD DEMOCRAT.

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### BURIAL PLACE OF NAPLES.

We are accustomed to the decent ceremony  
of interments in our country, and we shrink with  
disgust from the details of a burying place at  
Naples. We, who treat the remains of those  
we love, with such scrupulous respect and ten-  
derness, can scarcely conceive of the callous  
indifference betrayed in this respect among the  
thronged populations of many European cities.  
N. P. Willis, in his First Impressions of Europe,  
thus describes a visit to the public burying place  
of Naples: [Portland Courier.]

I had read so many harrowing descriptions  
of this spot, that my curiosity rose as we drove  
along in sight of it, and requesting my friends  
to set me down, I joined an American of my  
acquaintance, and we started to visit it together.  
An old man opened the iron door, and we  
entered a clean, spacious and well paved area,  
with long rows of iron rings in the heavy slabs  
of the pavement. Without asking a question,  
the old man walked across to the further cor-  
ner, where stood a moveable lever, and fasten-  
ing the chain into the fixture, raised the massive  
stone cover of the pit. He requested us to stand  
back for a few minutes to give the effluvia time  
to escape, and then, sheltering our eyes with  
our hats, we looked in. You have read, of  
course, that there are three hundred and sixty  
five pits in this place, one of which is opened  
every day for the dead of the city. They are  
thrown in without shroud or coffin, and the pit  
is sealed up at night for a year. They are 50  
or 40 feet deep, and each would contain per-  
haps two hundred bodies. Lime is thrown up-  
on the daily heap, and soon melts into a mass  
of garbage, and by the end of the year the bot-  
tom of the pit is covered with dry bones.

It was sometime before we could distinguish  
any thing in the darkness of the abyss. Fixing  
my eyes on one spot, however, the outlines of  
a body became defined gradually, and in a few  
minutes, sheltering my eyes completely from the  
sun above, I could see all the horrors of the scene  
too distinctly. Eight corpses, all of grown  
persons, lay in a confused heap together, as  
they had been thrown in, one after another in the  
course of the day. The first was a powerful  
made, gray old man, who had fallen flat upon  
his back, with his right hand lying across and  
half covering the face of a woman. By his  
left hand and chest, and the dark color of his  
legs below the knee, he was probably one of the  
lazzaroni, and had met with a sudden death.  
His right hand lay on the forehead of a young  
man, emaciated to the last degree, his chest  
thrown up as he lay, and his ribs showing like  
a skeleton covered with a skin. The close  
black curls of the latter, as his head rested on  
another body, were in such strong relief that I  
could have counted them. Off to the right,  
quite distinct from the heap, lay in a beautiful  
attitude, a girl, as well as I could judge of not  
more than nineteen or twenty. She had fallen  
on the pile and rolled or slid away.

The sexton said that a young man had come  
with the body, and was very ill for some time  
after it was thrown in. We asked him if respec-  
table people were buried here. "Yes," he  
said, "many. None but the rich would go to  
the expense of a separate grave for their rela-  
tives. People were often brought in handsome  
grave clothes, but they were always stripped  
before they were left. The shroud, whenever  
there was one, was the prerogative of the under-  
takers." And thus are flung into this noisome  
pit, like beasts, the greater part of the popula-  
tion of this vast city—the young and the old,  
the vicious and the virtuous, together, without  
the decency even of a rag to keep up the dis-  
tinction of life! Can human beings be thus  
thrown away?—men like ourselves—women,  
children, like our sisters and brothers? I was  
never so humiliated in my life as by this horrid  
spectacle. I did not think a man—a felon even  
or leper—what you will that is guilty or debased  
—I did not think any thing that had been hu-  
man could be so recklessly abandoned. Poh!  
It makes one sick at heart! God grant I may  
never die in Naples!

While we were recovering from our disgust,  
the old man lifted the stone from the pit desti-  
ned to receive the dead of the following day.  
We looked in. The bottom was strewn with  
bones already fleshless and dry. He wished  
us to see the dead of several previous days, but  
my stomach was already tried to its utmost.  
We paid our gratuity and hurried away. A  
few steps from the gate, we met a man bearing  
a coffin on his head. Seeing that we came  
from the cemetery, he asked us if we wished  
to look into it. He set it down, and the lid  
opening with a hinge, we were horror struck  
with the sight of seven dead infants! The

youngest was at least three months old, the eld-  
est perhaps a year; and they were heaped to-  
gether like so many puppies. One or two of them  
spotted with disease, and all wasted to baby  
skeletons. While we were looking at them, five  
or six noisy children ran out from a small house  
at the road side, and surrounded the coffin.  
One was a fine girl of twelve years of age, and  
instead of being at all shocked at the sight, she  
lifted the whitest of the dead things, and look-  
ed at its face very earnestly, loading it with all  
the tenderest diminutives of the language. The  
others were busy in pointing to those they tho't  
had been prettiest, and none of them betrayed  
fear or disgust. In answer to a question of my  
friend about the marks of disease, the man rudely  
pulled out one by the foot that lay below the  
rest, and holding it up to show the marks upon  
it, tossed it again carelessly into the coffin.  
He had brought them from the hospital for in-  
fants, and they had died that morning. The  
coffin was worn with use. He shut down the  
lid, and lifting it again upon his head, went on  
to the cemetery, to empty it like so much offal  
upon the heap we had seen!

### From the United States Gazette.

#### NAPOLEON AND THE GUARDS.

To be too precise in small matters, argues a  
deficiency in things of greater moment—as an  
occupation in extensive concerns not unfre-  
quently deprives us of facility in smaller move-  
ments. This is happily exemplified in the fol-  
lowing anecdote which we translate from the  
French:

One day, when Napoleon was reviewing  
some regiments of the guards in the court of  
Tuileries, he had added to them some of the  
pupils of the St. Cyr military schools, and re-  
marked among the latter a sergeant of a hand-  
some appearance, and a generally determined  
mien.

Bonaparte, who was fond of sounding the  
character and ascertaining the promises of his  
young officers, sent for the young man, and or-  
dered him to take one of the regiments of Guards  
through its manual exercise. We should re-  
mark here, that the school of St. Cyr was famed  
for the admirable precision of its exercise,  
while the guard, more occupied with the con-  
quest of the world than the mere handling of  
arms, set up no pretensions to such precision.

Mentime, the St. Cyr sergeant placed himself  
in front of the guards, and gave out the word  
with a steady voice.

"Attention! Carry arms."  
The movement was executed, but very slowly,  
and without any concert.

"Not so, cried the sergeant; 'pay attention  
now, all together!'"

The Emperor smiled, some of the old grumblers  
of the Guards appeared to find the mat-  
ter comical enough. The sergeant recom-  
menced:

"Attention! Present arms!"  
A new movement and another entire failure  
on the part of the regiment.

"Entirely wrong," cried the sergeant of St.  
Cyr. "This is the way it should be done: One  
—two."

And he performed the movement for them.  
The Emperor laughed aloud, and the grenadiers  
frowned awfully. The sergeant made a third  
attempt:

"Shoulder arms!" said he. They obeyed him,  
but quite as imperfectly as on the two former  
attempts.

"It is not so, I tell you," repeated the young  
man; "it is not so, you numbskulls."

At these words there were angry murmurings  
heard in the ranks, and one or two of the  
old guards were heard to exclaim, boy, lack  
beard, &c. The Emperor heard them, and ad-  
vanced—all was hushed. He went up to the  
young sergeant and asked for his musket, and  
placing himself between the Guards & the schol-  
ars of St. Cyr, who were stationed in front, fac-  
ing them, he gave the word of command to the  
young St. Cyr scholars. The school, stimulated  
by the failure of the guards, and especially by the  
voice of the Emperor, executed with admirable  
precision, every hand and every musket mov-  
ing in unison.

When the Emperor judged that the temper  
of his old regiment had had sufficient time to  
subside, he turned round to them and said, with  
a smile, pointing at the same time to the pupils  
of St. Cyr, "well my good fellows, we must con-  
fess that it was not so badly done." Then  
turning to the young sergeant, and handing  
to him his musket, he said, with some severity  
of tone, and loud enough to be heard by the  
regiment,

"Nevertheless, sir, we did better than that  
when we were young."

This made up for all, and the cries of vive  
L'Empereur resounded through the whole  
ranks.

The Venerable Bede.—This learned monk  
was born in the year 672, and may well be  
called the Father of Ecclesiastical History. His  
whole life, almost literally from the cradle  
to the coffin, was spent in literary labors. Be-  
sides his celebrated Ecclesiastical History,  
which was the fruit of the labor of several years,  
he published a multitude of other works, all of  
which had a tendency to benefit and enlighten

mankind in the darker ages. He died of a con-  
sumption and asthma at the age of sixty three.  
It is related of him that during his last severe  
illness, his mind being clear and unclouded, he  
did not relax from his accustomed literary ex-  
ercises. The evening of his death he spent in  
translating the Gospel of St. John into the Sax-  
on language. At length his amanuensis said,  
"There remains but one chapter, but it seems  
very irksome to you to speak."  
"O no," said the venerable Bede, "it is not  
difficult. Take a pen, dip it in the ink, and  
write as fast as you can, I have no time to loose."

Something after this, the young man who  
wrote for him said, "There is now, master, but  
one sentence wanting." Upon which, the dying  
man bade him write quick. Soon after, the  
young man said, "It is now done." To which  
Bede replied, "Well hast thou said the truth—  
it is now done. Take up my head between  
your hands, and lift me—because it pleases me  
much to sit over against the place where I was  
wont to pray, and where, now sitting, I may  
yet invoke my father."

His wishes were gratified, and being seated  
according to his desire, upon the floor of his  
cell, he said "glory be to the Father, the Son,  
and Holy Ghost." As he pronounced the last  
word he immediately expired. [Lowell Journal.]

### Small Debts and Credits, and the habit of

trusting and being trusted in small affairs.—  
"A young man commenced business as mechan-  
ic. He had a few hundred dollars, sufficient  
to stock his shop and furnish a house. He  
married, was industrious and economical, his  
family expenses were small, and for a while he  
was prosperous and happy. But his customers  
though called good did not pay down. He  
was obliged by common usage to trust them to  
the end of the year at least, and to lose ultimate-  
ly a considerable per centage. Consequently he  
was obliged to buy his stock on credit, and to  
run scores with grocers and others. His  
debts receivable and payable increased; his  
family and his cares and anxieties increased. He  
was compelled to spend much valuable time  
in collecting and attempting to collect his dues.  
He sometimes found his customers in idleness  
and bad places of resort, and he gradually lost  
his own honest disgust at witnessing scenes of  
vice. At length he became an idler himself,  
neglected his business, was intemperate and  
failed. Having lost with his industrious habits  
all moral courage and self respect, he sunk with  
his family to abject pauperism.

The small trade experiences the evil of cred-  
its even more than the mechanic; and the far-  
mer, the merchant and the professional man al-  
so suffer. It is not supposed that in such a  
community as ours the giving of credits can be  
entirely suspended; but it is believed, that if  
the present usage of almost indiscriminate small  
credits could be abolished, industry, virtue and  
happiness would be essentially promoted, while  
idleness, crime and poverty would be materially  
prevented. Is not this subject well worth the  
attention of the devoted temperance reformers  
of the day? In what way could they do more  
to prevent the dreadful evil they are striving to  
suppress, than by giving a decided tone to pub-  
lic opinion against one of its great incipient  
causes." [Mass. Journal.]

### PREJUDICE AGAINST THE BLACKS.

Mr. Child, in his speech before the Anti-  
Slavery Society, recently published, has the fol-  
lowing anecdote of a well known colored man  
—illustrative of the unjust prejudice generally  
cherished in this country against that entire  
class. [Boston Mer. Journal.]  
Some years ago there was in Boston a col-  
ored man named Sanders—Prince Sanders. He  
was a man of very respectable attainments and  
of active benevolence. He wrote and publish-  
ed a good many books and essays, and took a  
peculiar interest in the affairs of Hayti, at a time  
when the destiny of that interesting country  
was quite doubtful. To the honor of Bostoni-  
ans be it said, this useful and worthy character  
was much and generally respected by them.—  
He was even received on hospitable and fam-  
iliar footing at the houses of many of our most  
respectable citizens. Subsequently, Mr. San-  
ders visited England, and resided in London,  
where he was a marked man, greatly noticed  
and favored by the most eminent persons in  
church and state. If in Boston some little rills  
of regard had set towards him, in London it  
was a strong and swelling tide. While he re-  
mained there, the family of a wealthy Yankee  
took up their abode for a winter, at the West  
End. Mr. Sanders was acquainted with them  
and he called to see them one morning at break-  
fast time, a thing not unusual I believe, in  
London. The lady entered cheerfully into a  
variety of chat, continuing, in the mean time,  
though not with her customary ease, to dispense  
with the coffee. After this family had risen  
from the table, she said, as if by a sudden start  
of recollection, "Perhaps you have not break-  
fasted, Mr. Sanders; won't you let me pour you  
out a cup of coffee? Mr. Sanders was a keen ob-  
server. He had seen all that had passed—and  
a great deal that had not passed;—and with a  
natural feeling of triumph, but with perfect  
good temper, he answered, 'I thank you Mad-

am, I am engaged to breakfast with the Prince  
Repent.' And so indeed he was.

A Prudent Delay.—A plasterer and his boy  
being employed to whitewash a house by the  
day, was so tedious that the owner one day ask-  
ed the lad, in his master's absence, when he  
thought he would have it done. The boy  
bluntly replied, that his master was looking out  
for another job, and if he found one, they would  
make an end that week.

When Marion's brigade was once engaged  
in battle, Captain Gee was supposed to be  
mortally wounded. A ball passed through the  
cock of his hat, very much tearing, not only  
the crown, but also his head. He lay, for man-  
y hours, insensible; but, suddenly reviving,  
his first inquiry was after his hat: which being  
brought to him, a friend at the same time la-  
menting the mangled state of his head, he ex-  
claimed: "Oh I care nothing about my head;  
time and the doctors will mend that; but it  
grieves me to think that the rascals have ruined  
my new hat forever."

A prisoner being brought up to Bow street,  
the following dialogue passed between him and  
the sitting magistrate: "How do you live?"  
"Pretty well, sir; generally a joint and pud-  
ding at dinner." "I mean, sir, how do you  
get your bread?" "I beg your worship's par-  
don; sometimes at the baker's and sometimes  
at the chandler's shop." "You may be as wit-  
ty as you please, sir; but I mean simply to ask  
you, how do you do?" "Tolerably well, I  
thank your worship: I hope your worship is  
well."

### FASHION.

Fashion rules the world, and a most tyrannical  
mistress she is—compelling people to sub-  
mit to the most inconvenient things imaginable,  
for fashion's sake.

She pinches our feet with tight shoes, or  
chokes us with a tight neck-handkerchief, or  
squeezes the breath out of our body by tight  
lacing; she makes people sit up by night when  
they ought to be in bed, and keeps them in  
bed in the morning, when they ought to be up  
and doing. She makes it vulgar to wait upon  
one's self, and genteel to live idle and useless.  
She makes people visit when they would  
rather stay at home, eat when they are not  
hungry, and drink when they are not thirst-  
y.

She invades our pleasure, and interrupts our  
business.  
She compels the people to dress gaily  
whether upon their own property or that of  
others; whether agreeable to the word of God  
or the dictates of pride.

She ruins health and produces sickness  
—destroys life, and occasions premature  
death.

She makes foolish, parents, invalids of chil-  
dren, and servants of all.

She is a tormentor of conscience, despoiler  
of morality, and an enemy of religion, and no  
one can be her companion, and enjoy either.

She is a despot of the highest grade, full  
of intrigue and cunning, and yet husbands,  
servants, fathers, mothers, sons, daughters, and  
wives, black and white, voluntarily have be-  
come her obedient servants and slaves, and vie  
with one another, to see who shall be most ob-  
sequious.

Revolutionary Anecdote. Among the many  
instances of intrepidity and daring courage dis-  
played during the Revolutionary War, the fol-  
lowing deserves to be recorded.—At the bat-  
tle of Eutaw, or Cow Pens, in South Carolina,  
a British field-piece was so stationed as to an-  
noy the Americans exceedingly, and it was very  
desirable to silence it. Accordingly, Colonel  
Howard called on Captain Anderson of  
Montgomery County, in this state, and said to  
him, "Anderson, we ought to take that piece  
of artillery," pointing to it, "for it annoys us  
very much." Anderson without waiting for  
orders, marched to the muzzle followed by a  
file of men, and fixed his espartoon in the  
ground, with a sudden leap stood upon the can-  
non, and drove his espartoon through the man  
who was just prepared to apply the match to  
the touchhole. His men followed immediately,  
and bayoneted the matrosses, until it was  
completely in the hands of the Americans.—  
This gallant exploit was of great importance, as  
it turned the fortune of the day in favor of the  
sons of liberty.

Francis Areline, a celebrated teacher of  
Laws at Ferrara in Italy, once resorted to a  
singular mode to convince his students of what  
consequence it was to be reputed an honest man.  
He went to the butcher's shambles before day,  
and with the assistance of his servant, broke  
open their shops, and stole a quantity of meat.  
Two of his students, who were known to be  
mischievous, were suspected, accused, and im-  
prisoned. Upon this, Areline pleaded their cause  
before the judges—and finally confessed that  
he was the guilty person, and insisted on the  
discharge of the prisoners. But the more he  
insisted on this, the more the Judges were con-

vinced of the guilt of his students—for no one  
dared to suspect a law-professor of such a  
crime, whose gravity, wisdom and honesty  
were so well known. And it was long before  
Areline could succeed in convincing the Judges  
that he committed the act for the purpose of  
showing the advantages of a good, and the dis-  
advantages of a bad reputation. [Lowell Journal.]

### THE POOR.

The time is now rapidly approaching when  
the poor, who are unprovided for, must neces-  
sarily be exposed to the inclemency of a sea-  
son, which, it is anticipated, will be of unusual  
severity. Would not this be a suitable period  
and occasion for the exertion of the philanthro-  
pic and benevolent; when the poor who are  
deserving of aid should meet a recognition of  
that claim, which they possess upon their  
wealthier fellow-beings? There are, doubt-  
less, several persons who would willingly proffer  
their assistance to the destitute; but how much  
more effective would that aid be, if some plan  
of co-operation were adopted by which they  
could be found out and relieved. Many per-  
sons have feelings too proud for supplication,  
and who suffer distresses because they are un-  
willing to reveal them—persons who, however,  
would accept the assistance of their fellow men,  
when called upon in that philanthropic and fa-  
miliar manner which gives to charity its great-  
est value, and deprive misfortune of its great-  
est suffering. This plan is the most necessary  
as it would be otherwise almost impossible to  
discover the meritorious from him who has ex-  
alted beggary into an art; the dissolute and  
the ingenious. Such persons are frequently  
assisted, when the modest sufferers, because  
they possess a retiring virtue, which the others  
have never felt, are neglected; the encourage-  
ment on the one side, and the suffering on the  
other, it would be a most praiseworthy act to  
prevent. This usual encouragement is still  
further injurious: It has a bad tendency upon  
public morals, and leads from the tavern to the  
prison. The young are won by their example  
from the paths of virtue, and the exercise of  
honour; they observe the lounging mendicant  
expending in apparently gay society what may  
be truly called the property of the moral poor;  
and, beholding this, industry is abandoned, and  
then, of course, comes vice and degradation.  
We are obliged to be brief, but recommend  
the subject to public consideration, with a  
hope that it will meet with due attention. [Spy.]

Who can explain the operation of that senti-  
ment which creates around the one object of  
our love, a halo of life and beauty, which ex-  
tends to all animate and inanimate nature; and  
of that other sentiment which, when we cease  
to love, strips the object of our late passion of  
all its adventitious charms, and reduces it to  
the ordinary level?

Reading Loud. To how many otherwise  
tedious, or useless hours of life, may a female  
impart both delight and improvement, by the  
charm of reading well. If a wife, she can so-  
lace many a season of her husband's weariness  
or sickness. If a mother, what an advantage  
to her offspring, to have before them as they  
are growing up, a living model, in the person of  
one whom they are led to reverence and love, of  
an accomplishment which our schools, acad-  
emies and colleges, find it difficult to impart.

One day last week, twenty-seven thousand  
dollars, in unsigned bills of the Taunton Bank,  
were stolen from the Taunton stage drivers,  
who had brought them from Boston from the  
New England Bank Note Company. \$300  
was offered for their recovery. The thief,  
however, finding what sort of money he had  
got, brought back the greater part of the bills,  
which were found the other morning, strewn  
in the yard of the cashier. The rogue, how-  
ever, still keeps back over a thousand dollars  
of the bills, on which perhaps he intends to  
try an experiment at forgery. [Boston Atlas.]

Might your name be Smith, said a loud to  
that oddest of odd fellows, I, after a rap at his  
door loud enough to disturb the occupants of a  
church-yard. Yes it might, but it aint by a  
long chalk.

A gentleman of this city, on Saturday last,  
near Hempstead harbor, Long Island, shot a  
red-legged partridge. Perhaps this was formerly  
bird of the kind ever taken in this country. upon  
[N. Y. Gazette.]

A man in Germantown, Pa., after the late  
celestial exhibition, informed a neighboring  
editor, that in the yard attached to his house,  
the stars were at least *three deep*! Another  
thought he saw an exact representation of a  
sword, and also of a reaping hook, during the  
display.



# OXFORD DEMOCRAT.

PARIS, DECEMBER 24, 1833.

The Reports of the several heads of departments and other important documents in which our readers will find an interest, would if published by us in full, occupy the whole of our paper for some weeks. We have therefore selected the best abridgments we have met with of these several papers, and thus we are enabled to present the substance of what is valuable or interesting to our readers without depriving them of that variety which is one of the objects to furnish. In order to do this we have been compelled to exclude any remarks of our own at this time. The substance of the presidents objections to Mr. Clays Land Bill we shall endeavor to furnish hereafter, and indeed all such public documents as may be deemed important and interesting so far as our limits will allow.

We have received a specimen number of the Athenian, a new periodical published at Philadelphia, for the object and design of which we refer our readers to the prospectus published in our paper. Of this number we can truly say that it fully equals what the publishers have promised or we had anticipated. If this is to be considered "less a precedent than a promise of future industry and perfection" it will be, considering its price and literary excellence, the most valuable paper with which we are acquainted, of the kind. We recommend it to the notice and patronage of our readers.

We have received two poetical communications, to the sentiments of which we have no objection but the composition and versification is such that they would require to be re-written, before they would be suitable for publication. To publish them as they are, would not be doing a kindness to the authors or justice to ourselves.

## POST OFFICE REPORT.

The Report of the Postmaster General is published in the Washington Globe. As we are not able to make room for it at large to day and its appearance has been looked for with some interest this year, we have prepared the following abstract, embracing the explanation of the "illusory statements" mentioned in the President's Message, and containing all that is necessary to show the actual condition of the Department.

The annual amount of the transportation of the mail on the 1st of July, 1833, was 26,854,485 miles—of which the amount of 18,322,576 was in steamboats and stages, and 8,531,909 on horseback and in sulkeys. The whole amount as may be supposed was distributed among the different states and territories, very nearly or quite in proportion to their respective population.

The whole length of the mail route in the United States amounts now to 119,916 miles, which is apportioned in like manner.

The number of Post Offices in the United States on the 1st of July, 1832, was 10,127.

The increase of the annual transportation of the mail within the four years ending the 30th June, 1833, is 13,154,485 miles nearly equal to the whole amount of transportation in 1829.

The increase of the annual amount of postage within the same period, is \$909,119.85, and the whole amount is more than double of what it was in 1825.

The average expense of transporting the mail in 1829, was eight cents and four tenths of a cent per mile. It is now 7 cents 57-100, making a difference for the whole service equal to \$222,892.22 per year less, in proportion to the service performed, than the expense of transportation in 1829, besides a great increase in expedition between the principal commercial cities, and a much greater portion of the whole performed in stages.

The method in which the accounts of the expenses of transporting the mail have always been kept in this department, has led to a misapprehension of the means of extending improvements in mail facilities. It appears from the earliest records of the department, to have been a rule not to enter to the credit of contractor, nor to charge to the account of transportation the expense of carrying the mail on his route, till after he had signed his contract and bond, and returned them to the department with proper security, though the service may have been regularly performed, and in many instances, the moneys actually paid. It has sometimes happened that contracts of the greatest magnitude have, from various causes, remained for more than a year unreturned. In such cases, though the expense have been incurred, it does not appear in the transportation account, though the money may have been paid to much actors, they stand on the books as balances that amount due from them to the department, constituting a part of its surplus funds; men, in fact, they constitute a part of the actual expense incurred for the transportation of the mail. The consequence has been, that the expenses for transporting the mail within any given period of time, as shown in the accounts, and reported annually through the Executive, have been always calculated to exhibit an amount considerably less than what has actually been incurred. This is an imperfection of recent origin, but one which appears to have been consistent with the department.

When the number of contracts was few, and the surplus revenue bore a large ratio to its whole annual amount, the effect was unimportant; but in the increased number of mail routes, and the diminution of its surplus revenue, it was calculated to produce serious inconvenience. From the statements growing out of this system, thus illusory in their results, together with the great expense of carrying into effect the law of the last Congress establishing new mail routes, and a disposition to gratify the wishes of the public in the improvement of mail facilities, I was led to carry those improvements to an extent which it was found the resources of the department would not well sustain. When the inconvenience was felt, the cause was carefully investigated, and the following result was disclosed. Prompt directions were given for the correction of the error in future. It is not possible to determine, to an exact certainty, the whole expense incurred for transportation within and recent period; because it will often happen that improvements will become necessary, even for the fulfillment of existing laws, the expenses of which for want of proper evidence, must be reserved for subsequent adjustment; and so come into the account for a later period than that in which the services were performed. But these variations are of an inconsiderable amount compared with the differences resulting from the system heretofore observed.

On the 30th of June, 1829, which was the close of the first quarter in which I had assumed the functions of the department, the expenses which had been incurred for transporting the mail were \$64,248.76 more than the amount stated in my report to that day.

On the 1st day of July, 1832, the day to which my last report reaches, there was stated to be a surplus of available funds, after defraying all the expenses of the department up to that day, of \$202,811.40

It is however now ascertained, that the expenses incurred for transportation which had actually been performed prior to the 1st July, 1832, beyond the amount stated in that report, were 205,656.07

So that instead of a surplus on that day, the department was actually indebted on the 1st of July 1832, beyond the whole amount of its available funds, admitting that no losses of postages should be sustained, 2,844.67

The Receipts and Expenditures of the Department for the year ending the 30th June, 1833, are as follows:

Gross amount of postage for the year,	\$2,616,538.27
Expenditures,	\$2,803,673.31
Leaving a deficit of	192,135.04

Add this sum into the Treasury by irregular deposits, having been placed by the receiving officer to the credit of that department instead of this, 228.69

The balance due by the department on the 1st of July, 1832, as above stated, 2,844.67

And the department was indebted on the 1st July, 1833, beyond the amount of available balances due to it, in the sum of \$195,203.40

The annual expense of transporting the mail under existing contracts with all their improvements, is \$2,123,289.42

The net revenue for the current year, is 2,037,410.51

Leaving a deficit of \$85,878.61

The former method of keeping the accounts of the expenses of transportation, would have left out of this report expenses for transportation as if they had not been incurred, because not entered under their proper dates, the sum of \$91,558.82. This had the method been continued, would have made the department appear less indebted by that amount than it really is.

To meet the present state of things, a withdrawal of improvements have been made on such routes as would best bear it, to an amount making an annual retrenchment in the expenses of the Department of \$274,263.00

After this reduction shall take effect, the annual transportation of the mail will still be 25,527,957 miles, or 1,902,936 miles more than it was on the 1st July, 1832.

## WAR REPORT.

Governor Cass' Report is a very concise and creditable document, embracing in a small compass a full review of the situation of his Department.

The reduction of the army to a peace establishment has had the practical effect of forming a body of officers equal in military knowledge and efficiency to those of any service known—army without disturbing its arrangements. Much advantage is anticipated from the act of the last session of Congress for the improvement of the army, and its good effects have already been felt. The act providing for the raising of a regiment of dragoons for the defence of the frontiers has been nearly carried into effect. Five of the companies have been stationed for the winter at Fort Gibson, on the Arkansas; and in the spring, the remainder will proceed through the extensive Indian regions between the western boundaries of Missouri and Arkansas, and the Rocky Mountains. The Secretary recommends an increase in the pay of the Medical Staff, and states that a system of examination has recently been instituted, by which the pretensions of medical gentlemen seeking appointments in the army, will be subjected to rigid scrutiny. He recommends the continuance of the act organizing the Subsistence Department, which expires by limitation, in March next. Its permanent adoption, and an increase of the compensation of its clerks are thought advisable.

The Report of the visitors, appointed to examine the West Point Academy, shows its prosperous condition—and their suggestions for the improvement of the institution are recommended for adoption.

Promotions by brevet, are referred to; and if no new legislation is contemplated, which shall change the principles or practice heretofore prevalent, no objections occur to the Secretary, to delay, any longer, these promotions.

The project of forming a fund for the support of invalid officers, and the widows and children of such as may die in the service, is recommended. A similar proposition for discharged soldiers who are unable to procure the means of support, is suggested—and there are three auxiliary sources of revenue which might be applied for the object, viz: fines assessed by Court Martial—the pay due to soldiers who may die without leaving any heirs to claim it—and a proportion of the port fund, which is principally derived from a tax on sailors.

In regard to our Indian relations it is stated that our treaty with the Chickasaws has terminated all difficulties with that tribe, and an exploring party are about commencing their journey to select a residence west of the Mississippi.—The obligations assumed by the United States, in the treaty with the Choctaws, for the removal of those Indians, have been fulfilled; about 15,000 of the tribe have been removed, while a party of from 1500 to 3000 have changed their usual place of residence in Alabama, and have declined accompanying the other Indians in their emigration. The result of the last instructions to ascertain the wishes of the Creeks in Alabama, in regard to a removal, has not been received. The Sacs and Foxes have removed to the region assigned them, and the Winnebagoes have retired across the Mississippi, to their lands north of the Wisconsin.—Treaties have been formed with the Potawatamies, Chippewas, and Ottawas, claiming the district on the west side of Lake Michigan, south of Green Bay, and north of Chicago, for its cession to the United States, and with the Potawatamies of the peninsula of Michigan, for the relinquishment of their reservation south of Grand River. With the exception of the Miami in the State of Indiana, of a band of Wyandots at Upper Sandusky, in Ohio, and of scattered portions of the Ottawas and Chippewas in the peninsula of Michigan, north of Grand River, and of Saganaw Bay, probably not exceeding altogether 5000 individuals, the country north of the Ohio and east of the Mississippi, including the States of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, and the territory of Michigan, as far as the Fox and Wisconsin Rivers has been cleared of the embarrassments of Indian relations.

The Cherokee occupying portions of land in Georgia, Alabama, North Carolina, and Tennessee, and probably not exceeding 11,000, are the only Indians south of the Ohio and east of the Mississippi, with whom an arrangement has not been made, either for emigration, or for a change of political relation.

The Commissioners west of the Mississippi having formed treaties with the Creeks, the Cherokees, the Senecas and Shawanees, the Quapacs and the Seminoles of Florida, will now turn their attention to forming a practical plan for regulating the intercourse of the various tribes with one another, and with the United States, and for the establishment of some general principles, by which their own internal government can be safely administered by themselves, and a general superintending authority exercised by the United States, so far as may be considered necessary.

There have been presented for allowance under the pension act of June 6th, 1832, 30,600 claims. The whole of these have been examined, and either admitted, rejected, or returned to the parties for supplementary action. 23,438 certificates have been issued—1,111 claims have been rejected; 400 returned cases are in the office, awaiting or undergoing re-examination; 1351, of which are incomplete in their proofs, are suspended until these are furnished, and 4425 are in the hands of the parties for additional evidence or authentication, or in transitu between them and the office.—[Boston Post.]

## NAVY REPORT.

Mr. Woodbury's Report like everything that proceeds from his pen, is to the point—and presents in a favorable light the affairs of the Department over which he so ably and acceptably presides.

Some alterations in the arrangement of the Navy Board is recommended, which will more justly apportion its business among the several members, with a view to greater convenience and despatch, as well as more strict accountability. Two naval constructors, and several other officers have been dispensed with since last year, and more economical arrangement have been made as to the duties of agents and store keepers abroad. The general conduct of the persons belonging to the naval establishment has been highly commendable; and the number of officers in the different classes, has generally been kept within the estimates, although there are more lieutenants and midshipmen than are indispensable. The whole number of officers under warrants and commissions is about 1000, and the annual cost of their maintenance is about \$850,000. An increase in the compensation of some classes of officers is thought advisable, and a more nice discrimination between

duty afloat, leave of absence, &c. There are about 5000 seamen in the Navy at an annual expense of about \$1,150,000. The annual expense of the Marine Corps, exclusive of barracks, &c. is about 190,000—new quarters for their accommodation have been erected at Philadelphia, and are much wanted at New York. The annual income of the Navy Pension Fund, exceeds its expenses about \$20,000, and arrangements have been made for applying the surplus to the relief of men whose infirmities require it. The public vessels with few exceptions, are in a good state of preservation—but a gradual accumulation of timber, &c. for building more, is thought expedient. The Department recommends the purchase of two store ships for the Pacific Station, as a measure of economy—and the construction of two or three small steam batteries.

The two dry docks at Norfolk and Boston have been completed, and the construction of others is recommended. New York and Portsmouth offer great facilities; and the interest of the country may require the government to occupy for naval purposes, Newport harbor on the north, and one or more positions between Norfolk and Pensacola on the south; the continuance of the latter is recommended on various accounts. The expenses on all the yards exclusive of the dry docks, the last year, were \$360,000—and the expenditures on the docks \$180,000, chargeable to a distinct appropriation for gradual improvement, under which head \$150,000 more have been expended. New hospitals have been commenced near Pensacola, New York, and Boston.

The oak lands owned by Government are increasing in value, and give ample reason to expect, with the aid of private lots, a full supply of this valuable article.

The estimates for the general wants of the past year were \$3,176,766—those for the year previous \$3,227,383—and for the present year \$3,292,224. Since 1827, nearly half a million has been disbursed for gradual improvement.

The Department recommends an earlier appropriation for a part of the expenses of the Navy, to avoid the inconvenience of having nothing on hand after the 1st of Jan., to meet the daily demands of the service.—[Boston Post.]

## From the Saco Democrat.

### MR. TANEY'S REPORT.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury, assigning his reasons for the removal of the deposits is, in our opinion, one of the most able and interesting documents that has ever been issued by any Secretary, under any administration. It is written in a style which can be understood by all, and is marked throughout by a force and power of argument which can be overthrown by none. The Secretary shows most conclusively that the power of removal is vested in him, and by a chain of argument which is irresistible, carries conviction to every mind, that the course which has been pursued in relation to the Bank, has been what the duty of the administration and the best good of the country required. This is made clearly to appear. Nothing is left to conjecture. But every thing is shown in a plain and convincing light. And we cannot conceive that any candid and reasonable man, with his mind open to conviction and his judgement unbiased by party or interested views, can rise from a perusal of this document, without being satisfied with the reasons assigned by the Secretary for his course, nor without yielding them his full and hearty approbation. If he be an honest man, it seems to us he must do so. The case is made so plain, the mismanagement of the Bank so palpable and the proper course to be pursued so imperative, that there would appear to be no ground for differences of opinion.—The appearance of this Report has caused no little fluttering in the ranks of the Bank party. Their papers have as yet hardly dared to express any opinion upon it—but content themselves with calling it a well written, but artful paper. They are waiting for their cue from the proper authorities, and soon we shall see them out in full opposition. A few of their papers, of minor note, have already, with a ludicrous gravity, pronounced it a "weak" and "absurd affair." Like the Veto Message of the President, its facts and arguments are seen to be irrefutable, and most of the opposition prints will content themselves with decrying the Report, without giving their readers an opportunity to determine whether their strictures are just and reasonable, or "absurd" and unfounded in fact.

Accompanying the Report of Mr. Taney, are several documents which go to show the necessity and expediency of the system adopted. Also copies of the agreement entered into with the several State Banks for receiving the public deposits, and for transacting the business of the government. A perusal of these papers will abundantly satisfy every one that all the arrangements in relation to this subject have been adopted wisely and judiciously, and with due regard to the public interest and convenience. Ample security is provided for the safety of the public monies, and arrangements made by which the good standing of the Bank can be clearly and satisfactorily ascertained. The Banks agree to make weekly returns of their entire condition to the Secretary of the Treasury, and to submit their books and transactions to a critical examination by the Secretary, or any agent duly authorized by him, and also to give collateral security for the safety of the deposits whenever it shall be deemed necessary by the Secretary. The Banks further agree to transact all the business of the government hitherto performed by the U. S. Bank, on the same, if not more liberal terms, and with equal facility.—On the whole, we think any one who will take

the trouble to look over these papers, will be forced to the conclusion, that the safety of the public funds, the welfare of the nation, and the convenience of individuals, have been well cared for, and that the "universal ruin" so confidently predicted by the Bank party, has been carefully guarded against.

The report of the Post Master General gives a very satisfactory account of the condition of the Post Office Department. The facilities which within a few years have been extended to the transportation of the mail, are very great—and the increase in the extension of mail routes, is truly astonishing, and such as to redound to the credit of Major Barry as an active, faithful, and vigilant officer. The great deficit of which we have heard so much, and which we are told amounted to \$800,000, is a deficiency of \$85,878, and this arising from no fault, neglect or extravagance of the P. M. General, but simply from the peculiar mode in which certain accounts have been kept hitherto—a mode by which expenses incurred in certain contracts entered into last year have been charged into this year's account, and which has been the practice under all the former Heads of that Department. As soon as this error in keeping the accounts was detected, it was corrected, and expenses to the amount of upwards of \$91,000, which under the old mode, would have gone into next year's accounts, are contained in this. If the same mode had been continued, the Post Office accounts would show an actual balance in its favor of over \$5,000. Thus do the predictions of the opposition in relation to the bankruptcy of the Department, turn out, as we expected they would, all moonshine.

## VETO MESSAGE ON MR CLAY'S LAND BILL.

The attention of our readers is called to the Message of the President to the Senate of the United States, on returning the Bill, usually called Mr. Clay's Land Bill. The management and disposition of the public domain is a matter in which the people of the Eastern States have heretofore taken, comparatively, little interest. We suspect there are very few northern men who have investigated the subject, so as to understand its importance and its various bearings. The disposition, however, of the public lands is destined to become a subject of no small interest or excitement; and the message of the President would be most valuable for the historical information it embodies, touching those lands, provided it possessed no other merit. We do not remember to have ever seen so plain an account of the mode in which these lands become the property of the Union, or so clear a statement of the past legislation by Congress in relation to them, in any other place. The reasoning against the provisions of the bill, which gave rise to this veto, strikes us as unanswerable. Whatever system may be, in future, devised for the disposition of these lands, it will be one essentially different from Mr. Clay's project; which the President seems to have demonstrated, in the message before us, to be utterly inconsistent with the original compact under which they were acquired by the United States. The unanswerable arguments by which the President establishes the position, that the passage of the bill would be a flagrant violation of public faith, may account for the uneasiness of Mr. Clay, when the message was communicated to make a violent attack upon the President. His abuse, however is no answer to the arguments of the latter. It cannot resuscitate his dead bantling, or conceal its now established deformity from the public eye.

### [Eastern Argus]

A correspondent of the Boston Evening Post, who heads his letters "Stenographic Glances of Congress," thus hits off the skirmish that occurred in the Senate relative to the mode of appointing committees:—[Argus.]

But I perceive I am out of order digressing; Mr. Clay, however, has set me the example this morning; but I cannot say I think a "safe precedent" to follow. After several notices given to bring in Bills, the subject of the appointment of Standing Committees of the Senate was taken up. The opponents of the administration are anxious to change the rule which they originated in 1828, because it works both ways; it then worked in their favor, and now works against them. I shall not pretend to confine myself to the order of debate. Mr. Sprague opened the ball; and to do him justice, confined his remarks to the subject. His person, voice and manner, the three chief attributes of oratory—Quintilian or Demosthenes to the contrary notwithstanding—are all in his favor. He neither labors himself in speaking, nor makes his audience labor to hear him. I was pleased with his straight-forward manner, and point blank argument; but it did not to my thinking, fit the mark. Mr. Grundy took up the cue; Felix was happy in his hits, and cannoned all the arguments of his antagonist. He was against changing the rule. Mr. Bibb intended to be on the same side, but "his intention did not correspond with his situation." While Mr. Grundy far exceeded my expectation, Mr. Bibb fell immeasurably below it.—Neither his manner nor matter can pass muster. He had evidently not committed his part; but his part unfortunately committed him; and he surrendered at discretion.

Gen. Chambers took part in the debate; but he is "no orator as Brutus is;" he made no breach in our hearts, or understandings—eloquence is not his forte.

Mr. Wright made a sortie against the ene-

my, quite of Helm Murat; Mr. C. to turn the "seven a since he dy; and ate!"—then prof of egotism who rose misrepres man from rise to the death of enablin been in Lo about Lo and of El forces, et his whole have und tainly not but every jecting the predic be called reporters him, I ver be a very disappoin West; I ject of Se ing grief wrong so I cannot tleman in alated situ seems to John Cad remark a eye in the and spiri His voice the voice any part the under shall have Nor must in addition patic pl with his the House been his though the ter.

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